IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims replaces all prior listings:

1. (Currently Amended) A magnetic tape comprising:

a longitudinally extending nonmagnetic support having a longitudinal direction and a width direction;

a magnetic layer formed by depositing a plurality of evaporated metal magnetic films on the longitudinally extending nonmagnetic support, each having an oblique column-like structure, on a principal surface of said nonmagnetic support so that a growth direction of each of said deposited evaporated metal magnetic films is opposite to ~~said longitudinal direction~~ said growth direction of the previously deposited evaporated metal magnetic film, said magnetic layer having a double-layered structure composed of a lower metal magnetic thin film and an upper metal magnetic thin film;

a protective layer formed on said magnetic layer; and

a backcoating layer formed on the other surface of said longitudinally extending nonmagnetic support,

wherein,

a heat-shrinkage ratio in said longitudinal direction and a width direction is 0.50% or less,

a humidity expansion coefficient is 1×10^{-6}/% RH or less after stock at 100 °C and 5 %RH for 30 minutes,

a total thickness of said longitudinally extending nonmagnetic support is from 4.0 μm to 10.0 μm so that said heat-shrinkage ratio and said humidity expansion coefficient satisfy said conditions,

a total thickness of said magnetic layer is from 10 nm to less than 50 nm so that said heat-shrinkage ratio and said humidity expansion coefficient satisfy said conditions, and

a ratio of a total thickness of said magnetic tape to the total thickness of said magnetic layer of 1000 or less so that said heat-shrinkage ratio and said humidity expansion coefficient satisfy said conditions.

2. (Cancelled).

3. (Cancelled).

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Original) The magnetic tape according to claim 1, wherein:
a width of said magnetic tape is defined to be 1.27 cm.

6. (Cancelled).

7. (Original) The magnetic tape according to claim 1, wherein:
the thickness of said magnetic layer from 10 nm to 25 nm.